(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore;

(c) whether any concrete programme have been chalked out to provide telephone facilities in all the police stations of all the districts in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the time by which when telephone facilities will be provided in all the police stations in Uttar Pradesh;

(e) whether any survey has been conducted or is being conducted to know the number of police stations where telephone facilities are not available in other states like Bihar and Haryana; and

(f) if so, what is the number of such police stations in these states and what steps are taken or are likely to be taken by government to provide telephone facilities there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Sir, Department of Telecom in U.P. provides telephone connections on demand from the Police Authorities under OYT registration subject to technical feasibility.

(c) Telepnones in Police Stations would be provided subject to technical feasibility as and when such demands are registered by State Government of U.P.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to (e) above.

Improper record maintained by the accounts department of Calcutta Telephones

2532. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta Telephones have been resorting to disconnection of subscribers telephone lines inspite of payment of their telephone bills due to lapses on its accounts departments;

(b) whether subscribers have been representing to the authorities on this count but all in vain;

(c) whether Calcutta Telephones under the charge of General Manager (South) have also been refusing to accept cheques of the subscribers and withholding the same without these being presented to the banks for encashment;

(d) whetner there are any serious lapses in the matter of collection of telephone dues;

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(f) what steps are being taken by Government to get all the cheques encashed immediately, received from the subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Payment to IDLE workers

2533. PROF. SOURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether dearth of job has led the Telecom. Factory, Calcutta to pay wages and salaries to a large number of idle workers and staff;

(b) whether lack of planning and identifications of items for telecommunication system right on time by the management have caused enough wastage of funds;

(c) whether Government is unable to fix up responsibility for the present state of affairs in the factory on

any concerned senior officials; and

(d) if so, what are the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Obsolescence of some products has led to some of the works remaining idle at times.

(b) Idle labour situation in Telecom Factory, Calcutta has arisen due to rapid technological obsolescence of the important products, namely Manual T-43 Trunk Exchange equipments and lack of demand for local coin box telephones. To overcome the situation, following new items have been inducted in Telecom Factory, Calcutta during 1993-94 for optimum utilisation of infrastructure and available work force:

(i) MDF C-DOT 128/512 Port type exchanges;

(ii) Light weight 15 & 40 Meters masts;

(iii) Power Plant 100 Amps. 50 Volts·

(iv) 80/100 meters Tubular Towers;

(v) DP Boxes with IDC Module.

(c) and (d) Does not arise as technological changes are very rapid.

Opening of new post and Telegraph Offices in Assam

2534. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criteria followed for opening of new posts and telegraph offices by Government;

(b) how many new posts and telegraph offices are proposed to be opened in Assam during the year 1993-94; and

(c) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Post Offices:

The criteria followed for opening of new post offices are given in statement (See below)

Telegraph Offices:

The criteria are the demand, and the need, for Telegraph services.

(b) and (c) *Post Offices:*

It is proposed to open 25 extra departmental branch post offices and 3 departmental sub-post offices in Assam during 1993-94. The details have not been finalised.

Telegraph Offices:

No telegraph office is proposed to be opened in Assam during the year 1993-94.

Statement

Criteria/Norms fixed for opening new post offices in rural areas

The following norms for opening branch post offices effective from 1.4.1991 have been adopted:—

(i) *Population:*

(a) In Normal areas: 3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO villages)

(b) In the Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas: 500 population in individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

(ii) *Distance:*

(a) In Normal areas: The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas: The distance limit will the same as